

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 OMB-01 IO-13 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /112 W
----- 129135

R 051003 Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9895
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI
AMCONSUL LAHORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 5389

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PK

SUBJECT: GOP TALKS WITH POLITICAL OPPOSITION

REF: KARACHI 1147

1. DESPITE FORMER BALUCHISTAN CHIEF MINISTER MENGAL' S
CURT DISMISSAL OF LAST WEEK' S TALKS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL OPPOSITION LEADERS (REFTEL),
ANOTHER MARATHON, BUT APPARENTLY INCONCLUSIVE SESSION
WAS HELD JULY 3. MEETING WAS CALLED AT BEHEST OF LAW
AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS MINSTER PIRZADA AND WAS
ATTENDED BY PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION FIGURES INCLUDING
NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (NAP) PRESIDENT WALI KHAN.

2. WALI TOLD EMBOFFS JULY 4 THAT TALKS WITH GOVERNMENT
LEADERS, INCLUDING BHUTTO, DID NOT TOUCH ON
RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH AND THAT DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION
WAS SOLE TOPIC OF DISCUSSION. LATEST MEETING LIKE PREVIOUS
WAS UNPRODUCTIVE. WALI COMPLAINED THAT, IN HIS
EXPERIENCE WITH BHUTTO, MEETINGS ARE HELD, SOME AGREE-
MENTS REACHED AND SUBSEQUENTLY " NOTHING HAPPENS". WALI
SAID THAT BALUCHISTAN PARLIAMENTARY SITUATION WAS KEY
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INDICATOR WHETHER BHUTTO WAS PREPARED TO PERMIT CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY IN PAKISTAN; BHUTTO WAS ACTING AS IF NINE WAS MAJORITY IN BALUCHISTAN ASSEMBLY RATHER THAN TWELVE (NUMBER OF SUPORTERS IN NAP/ JUI COALITION).

3. NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY LEADERS HAVE NOW LEFT CAPITAL TO RETURN TO FRONTIER AND BALUCHISTAN IN ORDER TO TAKE PART IN ELECTIONS TO SENATE. WITH BHUTTO' S DEPARTURE NEXT WEEK ON US TRIP, EARLY COMPROMISE BETWEEN BHUTTO AND NAP APPEARS INCREASINGLY UNLIKELY.
DECONTROL JULY 5, 1974
SOBER

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NNNNMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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